

## Ontario Sheep Farmers Congratulates Premier Ford and Newly Elected Members of Parliament

## For immediate release

February 28, 2025 - Guelph (ON) - Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) extends congratulations to Premier Ford, the Progressive Conservative Party and all elected and re-elected MPPs. We are excited about the opportunity to collaborate over the next four years to enhance and strengthen Ontario's sheep industry.

We are particularly grateful for the government's recent decision to allocate an additional \$100 million into Ontario's Risk Management Program (RMP) which was announced on January 28. The announcement, to raise the provincial contribution from \$150 million to \$250 million, is celebrated by OSF and our allied members in the Ontario Agriculture Sustainability Coalition (OASC) as a significant investment in a successful future for the agricultural industry.

"The Risk Management Program is very important to our members, especially those who are newer to our sector and farmers growing their flocks," says Art Alblas, Chair of OSF. "Lamb production enrolled in this program has doubled since 2020 and continues to increase. The leadership shown by Minister Flack and the PC government to increase the investment in this valuable program will support sheep farmers as we expand production to meet the growing demand for lamb in Ontario."

Ontario's sheep farmers look forward to working together with the Ford government to implement this investment in our Risk Management Program and ensure our sector has access to business risk protection to help mitigate the impacts of ongoing trade threats.

Ontario's 3,000 sheep producers are represented by the Ontario Sheep Farmers organization. With a focus on profitability and sustainability, the organization works in the areas of advocacy, industry capacity, research and market development. Its goal is to provide consumers with premium lamb and sheep products. For more information visit www.OntarioSheep.org.

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